Network of LPG outlets in Rural Areas

2407. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH "SURYA": Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to spread the network of LPG distribution outlets in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what shall be the criteria for allotting LPG distributorship in the rural areas; and

(d) by when Government proposes to start this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d): As per the existing policy, the following criteria are adopted for setting up economically viable LPG distributorships in different parts of the country including in rural areas:

(i) All urban locations with a population of 10,000 and above by including potential of adjoining villages falling within the radius of 15 Kms.

(ii) Urban locations having population of 5,000 and above taking into account the potential of adjoining villages falling within 15 Kms radius.

(iii) Cluster of villages within 15 Kms radius of nucleus villages having a population of 10,000 and above.

(iv) Villages within 15 Kms radius around towns having population of 1 lakh and above.

Accordingly, in the Marketing Plan 1996—98, 540 LPG distributorships are earmarked for rural areas.

Locations included in the marketing Plans are advertised by the oil marketing companies from time to time. Selection is made through the Dealer Selection Boards. It generally takes about 6—12 months for commissioning of the dealerships/distributorships from the date of interview.

Calculation of Cost Per Cylinder

2408. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how much cost per cylinder is calculated by the Oil Corporation item-wise for Draft charges, Rent of showroom, godown, salaries, telephone,

stationery, delivery charges, electricity, insurance, maintenance, public liability, licence fees, conveyance, mechanic service etc. for running LPG distributorship;

(b) how much net commission per cyclinder is given to LPG distributors for their livelihood;

(c) how much is ceiling limit of refill sales for LPG distributorship situated in small towns having population less than 2 lakhs; and

(d) what are the extra expenses borne by distributors of metros to justify excessive ceiling limits for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) The distributors' commisson was worked out on normatives basis for an average refill sale of 4400 cylinders per month by the committee constituted by the Government. The details of cost included in the normative working for various heads are given in the Statement (*see* below)

(b) The current rate of distributors' commission per LPG (Domestic) cyclinder is Rs. 13.83.

(c) The ceiling limit of refill sales for LPG distributorship situated in towns having population less than 2 lakhs is 8000 refills per month.

(d) The major factors contributing to higher ceiling limit for metro/big cities are higher investment for godown and showroom, higher operating expenses including wages and salary, higher transportation cost for cylinders movement from godown to customer premises etc.

Statement

	Annual	Monthly	Per Cylinder
Draft charges	12960	1080.00	0.25
Rent of showroom#	12000	1000.00	0.23
Rent of godown#	45000	3750.00	0.85
Salaries (including welfare expenses)	277445	23120.42	5.25
Telephones	10000	833.33	0.19
Stationery	12000	1000.00	0.23
Delivery charges	60000	5000.00	1.14

	Annual	Monthly	Per Cylinder
Electricity Water	6000	500.00	0.11
Insurance	51700	4308.33	0.98
Maintenance		0.00	0.00
Public Liability		0.00	0.00
Licence Fees		0.00	0.00
Conveyance		0.00	0.00
Mechanic Service$		0.00	0.00
	487105	40592.08	9.23

(#) M&R on showroom and godown, depreciation on godown and interest on net fixed asset (godown) as taken in the de novo study of 1997 is being reflected as showroom rent for the purpose of above information.

(*) All these elements were covered under miscellaneous expense.

($) Mechanic service is covered as mechanic's salary under the salary head.

Demand for More Allocation of Gas to Rajasthan

†2409. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Government's reaction on the demand for allocation of adequate quantity of gas for Rajasthan from the proposed gas grid in Gujarat; and

(b) what progress has been so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) No such demand has been received from the State Government of Rajasthan.

Demand for Natural Gas for Gas based Industries in Rajasthan

†2410. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for natural gas for two gas based power plants at Dholpur and Kota, ammonia based project, methane project, ceramic industry (80 projects) and other industries and petro- chemicals industries at Kota/Bundi;

(b) if so, the quantity thereof and the quantity being provided by Govenment; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.